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**PATENT  
AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL  
GROUP 2143  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: ALLEN et al.

Application: STORAGE AREA NETWORK MANAGEMENT AND CONFIGURATION  
METHOD AND APPARATUS VIA ENABLING IN-BAND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Serial No.: 09/657,234

Filing Date: September 7, 2000

Art Unit: 2143

Examiner: David E. England

Case: ROC92000-0220-US1

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed for Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on

Dec. 21, 2004 *Joan Pennington* Joan Pennington  
Date of Deposit Signature Typed/printed name of person signing

535 North Michigan Avenue  
Unit 1804  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Mail Stop AF  
Honorable Commissioner Of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action made final and mailed October 21, 2004,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows: